## Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all previous listing of claims in the application.

**Listing of claims:**

1.      (currently amended) A pseudonymous email address generator for generating a pseudonymous email address associated with an email address, the generator comprising:

a request interface, for receiving a pseudonymous email address generation request from one of an external webserver in response to the creation of a webpage hosted by the external webserver, an email client application, an email client application plugin, and an identity management system and a web browser plugin; and

a pseudonymous email address creator, for creating a pseudonymous email address associated with a mail server in response to the received pseudonymous email address generation request, for associating the pseudonymous email address with an email address, for providing the created pseudonymous email address and the associated its associated email address to the mail server associated with the pseudonymous email address and for providing the created pseudonymous email address to the one of the external webserver and web browser plugin the identity management system.

2.      (original)            The generator of claim 1 including a mail server interface for receiving from the pseudonymous email address creator both the pseudonymous email address and the email address associated with the pseudonymous email address, and for providing them to the mail server associated with the pseudonymous email address in a predetermined format.

3.      (original)            The generator of claim 1 further including a request analysis engine for receiving from the request interface an indication of the destination of the requested alias, for determining in accordance with the indication that the email address associated with the pseudonymous email address is a honeypot address.

4.      (currently amended) The generator of claim 1 wherein the pseudonymous email address creator includes means for defining properties of the pseudonymous email address, the properties

selected from a list including a friendly name associated with the pseudonymous email address, a management link and corresponding attachment method and the email address the pseudonymous email address is ~~associated with,~~ associated with; and for providing the defined properties to the associated mail server.

5.      (original)            The generator of claim 1 further including a rules engine for defining a set of routing rules in accordance with requests received by the request interface, for associating the defined set of rules with pseudonymous email addresses generated by the pseudonymous email address creator, and for providing the created set of rules to the mail server associated with the pseudonymous email address.

6.      (original)            The generator of claim 5 wherein the rules engine further includes means for defining the routing rules in accordance with a set of parameters defined in the pseudonymous email address generation request.

7.      (original)            The generator of claim 5 wherein the rules engine further includes means for defining the routing rules in accordance with a set of default parameters.

8.      (original)            The generator of claim 7 wherein the default parameters are dependent upon a requester identifier associated with the pseudonymous email address generation request.

9.      (currently amended) A mailing list administration server for receiving email messages from users having registered email addresses and for distributing the received messages to recipients of a mailing list, the server comprising:

        a mail receiving engine for receiving an email message from an email address for distribution to a mailing list and for determining that the email address is an address registered to the mailing list;

        a pseudonymous email address creator, for creating a pseudonymous email address associated with both a mail server and the email address associated with ~~a received~~ the received email message, for providing the created pseudonymous email address and the associated email address to the mail server associated with the pseudonymous email address, and for replacing the ~~registered~~ email address associated with ~~a~~ the received email message with the created

pseudonymous email address prior to the distribution of the message to ~~the recipients~~ addresses registered to the mailing list.

10.     (currently amended) The server of claim 9 wherein the pseudonymous email address creator includes means to replace ~~the registered email address~~ email addresses registered to the mailing list in both the header of the received message and the body of the received message with ~~the~~ created pseudonymous email ~~address~~ addresses prior to the distribution of the message to the recipients.

11.     (currently amended) The server of claim 9 further including a database for receiving and ~~stored~~ storing mappings between email addresses and the pseudonymous email address associated with them and for providing the pseudonymous email address creator with previously created pseudonymous email addresses for use in replacing registered email addresses with created pseudonymous email addresses.

12.     (currently amended) A mail server for receiving and routing messages addressed to a pseudonymous email address, the mail server comprising:

        a rule-based pseudonymous email address processing engine, for retrieving from a routing rules list a set of rules associated with the pseudonymous email address in response to the receipt of a message addressed to the pseudonymous email address, for determining routing information for the ~~received messaged~~ received message in accordance with the set of condition based rules, and for attaching a management link to the received message in accordance with a predefined preference associated with the pseudonymous email address.

13.     (original)          The mail server of claim 12, wherein the management link is embedded in the message header.

14.     (currently amended) The mail server of claim 12, wherein the management link is selected from a list including universal resource locator, a universal resource indicator, and an ~~email attachment~~ email attachment; and is provided as an attachment to the message.

15.     (currently amended) The mail server of claim 12, wherein the management link is selected from a list including universal resource locator, and a universal resource ~~indicator~~ indicator; and is embedded in the subject line of the received email message.

16.    (currently amended) The mail server of claim 12, wherein at least one of the set of rules stored in the routing rules list and the ~~predefine~~ predefined preference is generated by a pseudonymous email address generator.

17.    (original)          The mail server of claim 12, further including a user database, for receiving messages from the rules based pseudonymous email address processing engine, the messages determined to be associated with user accounts stored in the user database, and for storing the received messages for retrieval.

18.    (original)          The mail server of claim 12, further including an outgoing mail processing engine for receiving mail from an email client application, the received mail having both a destination address and a header, and for replacing a from address field in the header with a pseudonymous email address determined in accordance with the destination address.

19.    (currently amended) A method of generating a pseudonymous email address associated with an email address, the method comprising:

      creating a pseudonymous email address;

      associating the created pseudonymous email address with the email address; and

      defining a set of preferences associated with the pseudonymous email address~~, the preferences including at least one of~~ a management link style ~~and a set of condition based rules, the set of condition based rules for use by a mail server associated with the pseudonymous email address to determine the routing of messages received addressed to the pseudonymous email address~~.

20.    (original)          The method of claim 19, wherein the step of creating a pseudonymous email address is preceded by the step of receiving a pseudonymous email address generation request.

21.    (original)          The method of claim 20, wherein the request is received from a hypertext transfer protocol server in response to a request for an email address.

22.    (original)          The method of claim 20, wherein the request is received from a web browser plug in.

23.    (original)          The method of claim 20 including the step of providing the created pseudonymous email address to the source of the pseudonymous email address generation request.

24.    (original)          The method of claim 19, wherein the step of creating the pseudonymous email address includes: selecting a mail server to be associated with the pseudonymous email address; selecting a pseudonymous email address prefix; and creating the pseudonymous email address by combining the selected prefix with a suffix determined in accordance with the selected mail server.

25.    (original)          The method of claim 24 wherein the step of selecting a prefix includes a step selected from the list of combining a username prefix and username suffix selected from predefined lists, randomly generating a pseudonymous email address prefix and generating a pseudonymous email address prefix based upon a serialized order.

26.    (original)          The method of claim 19, wherein the step of creating the pseudonymous email address includes creating a pseudonymous email address distinct from previously created pseudonymous email addresses.

27.    (original)          The method of claim 19, wherein the step of defining the set of rules includes one of defining a number of messages that pseudonymous email address can receive over its lifespan, defining a time based lifespan for the pseudonymous email address, defining an origination email address from which messages will be received, and defining an email address to which messages are routed if other defined rules in the set are not satisfied.

28.    (original)          The method of claim 19, further including the step of providing the created pseudonymous email address, the email address associated with the pseudonymous email address, and the defined set of rules to the mail server associated with the pseudonymous email address.

29.    (currently amended)  A method of routing messages addressed to a pseudonymous email address and received at a mail server, the method comprising:

        obtaining a set of condition based routing rules associated with the pseudonymous email address;

determining an email address to which the message associated with pseudonymous email address should be routed in accordance with the obtained set of rules;

attaching a management link to the message in one of a ~~predetermine~~ predetermined number of styles; and

routing the message to the determined email address.

30.    (original)         The method of claim 29 wherein the step of obtaining the set of rules includes consulting a routing rules list.

31.    (original)         The method of claim 29 wherein the step of determining an email address includes examining the message addressed to the pseudonymous email address to determine if the origination address matches an acceptable address as defined in the obtained set of rules.

32.    (original)         The method of claim 29 wherein the step of determining an email address includes determining that the message should be discarded.

33.    (original)         The method of claim 32, including the step of sending a bounce-back message to the sender of the message addressed to the pseudonymous email address.

34.    (original)         The method of claim 29 further including the step of altering the set of routing rules associated with the pseudonymous email address.

35.    (original)         The method of claim 29, wherein the step of attaching a management link includes one of: embedding a universal resource locator in the subject line of the message; embedding a universal resource identifier in the subject line of a message; appending additional message header fields to the message header; attaching a universal resource locator to the message; attaching a universal resource identifier to the message; attaching a data file to the message; and attaching an executable file to the message.